THE GRANGE NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 23 DECEMBER 1983

A Word From Our Chairman

By the time you read this we will be into the month of December - the last month of 1983. The year has literally flown for your Chairman, filled with wondrous happenings on this historic house. You have all grown magnificently in this past year and each of you have contributed so much to The Grange and to the Art Gallery of Ontario. Thank you.

The Luncheon Lecture series has been an unqualified success not only in the quality of the lectures but also in the catering of the lunches. Elizabeth McKeown has run this series for a year and a half and we will miss her in the spring.

We welcome a new addition to the library volunteer staff. Betty Donald, who will be the Wednesday librarian.

Speaking of libraries, we hope to instigate tours in the Reference Library of the Art Gallery of Ontario early in the New Year. This library is available to all Grange Volunteers for use as a resource in preparing research and Karen McKenzie would like us to become more familiar with its content.

1984 promises to be a most exciting year with the Sesquicentennial Celebrations. Don't forget we have a slice of history in "The Privileged Few", by John Lownsbrough. It would make a super Christmas present, so talk it up. Did you know that during the Mauritshuis exhibition there was one day with one team who sold more acoustiguides than any other?

The Grange will be closed Christmas weekend on Saturday, December 24th and Sunday, December 25th. The complete Gallery will be closed on Monday December 26th. New Year's weekend, The Grange is closed Saturday and Sunday, December 31st and January 1st, respectively and

everything closed on Monday, January 2nd.

A very Merry Christmas to all of you and my wishes for happiness and prosperity in the New Year. -KF

Calendar

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

Wednesday, December 14, 7:30 pm
Join DANIEL HYATT for an evening of song and story, a touch of Christmas Past, in THE GRANGE. A light repast will follow. Tickets, $7 for members, $10.50 for non-members may be purchased by calling 977-0414, Ext.237

EVENING LECTURE SERIES

The Grange Music Room, 7:30 pm
Lectures are followed by refreshments.

January 18: PROFESSOR CARELESS
"The Toronto of 1834"
January 25: ARABY LOCKHART
"A Reading from the 19th Century"
February 1: ARNOLD EDINBOROUGH
"Pleasures of the Hearth"
February 8: ANTHONY ADAMSON
"Architecture and the Boultons"
February 15: ELIZABETH KEENAN & SUSAN PRIOR Perform
" A Pianoforte and Classical Flute Concert"

Tickets $7 for members (Series $35); $10.50 for non-members (Series $45), can be purchased at The Grange or ordered by calling 977-0414, Ext.237

Etcetera

WEEKEND VOLUNTEERS _ The Grange needs volunteers for weekend duty. Please contact Jessica Hunt at 962-1014 if you are able to help out.

GRANGE ARTIFACTS - The Housekeeping Team is looking for new members. It's a great way to acquaint yourself with The Grange artifacts. Contact Nancy Lofts at 621-1774 if interested.

NAPKINS & DOILIES - Donations of Linen Napkins (2'square or more) and Lace Doilies would be greatly appreciated. The Grange is definitely in need of these items.

GIFTS - Take advantage of shopping at the Gallery. The Book Shop has more than 5,000 art-related titles, a selection unparalled in Toronto. The Reproduction Shop features international exhibition posters and reproductions of works from the permanent collection. Handcrafted designs by outstanding Canadian artisans can be found at The Jewellery Shop, and novelty stocking stuffers are available at The Art Cart. Memberships make wonderful Christmas gifts as well. Think Gallery when shopping this year.

TRAVELLING DRESS - Jean Gray tells us a little about the travelling dress on the mannequin in the display case. It is a faithful reproduction of one worn by Sabina Mecklar Wagner, c.1825. The skirt, of the two piece dress, is gathered on tapes to a back opening. Braces were used to hold the skirt well above the waist. Its jacket is buttoned left over right and exhibits fine piping so popular during the era. The original dress is in the R.O.M. Textile Department and Mary Holford, Assistant Curator was kind enough to allow Jean Gray to reproduce it for The Grange.

SERVANTS SALARIES - According to Pleasance Crawford, "Letters exchanged by Ann Macaulay of Kingston and her sons, available on microfilm in the Archives of Ontario, contain a wealth of detail of daily life in Upper Canada". Pleasance found the answer to servant salaries in a letter from John Macaulay to his mother:

Toronto
Sept.28, 1839

. . . Helen is without a cook. Eliza has been spirited away by some other servants, and gets 7 dollars a month from Mrs. Strachan with a promise of 8, if she continues a certain fixed time -- Cooks have become scarce and there are families here who do not stick at trifles and go beyond their neighbours in wages in order to get their choice.

How we shall get on, without Eliza, I do not know. It would perhaps have been a real saving to have allowed her £6 a year additional . . .

NEWSLETTER - Items to be included in next issue should be submitted to Marilyn Litvak, editor, Newsletter, The Grange Administrative Office.